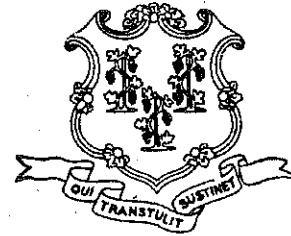


# Department of Consumer Protection



Testimony of William M. Rubenstein  
Commissioner of Consumer Protection

Appropriations Committee Public Hearing  
March 25, 2013

Governor's Bill 6351, "An Act Making Deficiency Appropriations for  
the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013"

Sen. Harp, Rep. Walker, Sen. Kane, Rep. Miner and honorable members of the  
Appropriations Committee, I am William Rubenstein, Commissioner of Consumer Protection.  
Thank you for this opportunity to offer remarks in support of Governor's Bill 6351, "An Act  
Making Deficiency Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013," and to respond to  
any questions you may have.

As you are aware, negotiations involving the Indian Tribes has altered the funding  
structure for state personnel providing oversight of activities at the two casinos. This change has  
caused the reimbursement amount anticipated in the current budget to fall short of original  
expectations; and this is the sole reason for the Department's bottom line showing a deficit.

At the time Gov. Malloy's deficiency bill was submitted, the shortfall was estimated to be  
\$900,000 for the current fiscal year. However, we have worked to find ways to achieve savings

that could reduce this gap. The most significant way to accomplish this has been to leave unfilled a number of vacant positions within the Department. Although this does pose some challenges, we have been able to do this to achieve considerable savings while ensuring that the Department's mission is not compromised. As such, I can report to the committee that we have achieved approximately \$600,000 in savings in the current budget. That means that the \$900,000 figure contained in the deficiency bill before you may be reduced to \$300,000 to fund the Department's activities through the end of this fiscal year.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these remarks. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.